

HOUSE BILL 346  
By Newton

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary  
financial assistance from lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-911, is amended by deleting subdivision (c) and by substituting instead the following:

(c) If a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship ceases to be eligible for the scholarship at any time for any reason, then the student shall not be able to regain the Tennessee HOPE scholarship.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-920(e), is amended by adding the following sentence at the end of the subsection:

If a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE access grant fails to achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted twenty-four (24) semester hours, the student shall not be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship at any future time.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following new section:

§ 49-4-929.

(a) A student who meets all qualifications for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under § 49-4-907 or § 49-4-908 as an entering freshman except that the student did not achieve the high school grade point or the composite ACT score or combined SAT score required for the scholarship, but who enters and attends an eligible postsecondary institution no later than the fall semester immediately following completing high school or

obtaining a GED without financial assistance from lottery proceeds, shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of twenty-four (24) semester hours, if the student has achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 and the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements for the scholarship. If such student does not achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of twenty-four (24) semester hours, but is enrolled continuously as a student at an eligible postsecondary institution and achieves a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of forty-eight (48), seventy-two (72), or ninety-six (96) semester hours, or one hundred twenty (120) semester hours, if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program required to be more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours in length, then the student shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, provided that the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements for the scholarship. If, after receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, such student ceases to be eligible for the scholarship for any reason, then such student shall not be able to regain the Tennessee HOPE scholarship.

(b) A student who meets all qualifications for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under § 49-4-909 except that the student does not achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted twenty-four (24) semester hours and who continues to be enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution or a postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee that is accredited by a regional accrediting association, shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, if such student achieves a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of forty-eight (48),

seventy-two (72), or ninety-six (96) semester hours, or one hundred twenty (120) semester hours, if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program required to be more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours in length, provided that the student continues to meet all other eligibility requirements for the scholarship. Prior to receipt of the scholarship, such student shall be continuously enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution or a postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee that is accredited by a regional accrediting association. Such student must be admitted to and transfer to an eligible postsecondary institution to receive the scholarship. If, after receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, such student ceases to be eligible for the scholarship for any reason, then the student shall not be able to regain the Tennessee HOPE scholarship.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.